

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Previously presented): A method of annotating an XML schema to describe a non-XML data stream containing input data to create an XML instance, comprising:

 including nodes within said XML schema to define characteristics of said non-XML data stream;

 annotating the nodes with property information pertaining to the schema level of the nodes;

 receiving said non-XML data stream;

 parsing said non-XML data in accordance with information contained in said nodes;

and

 creating said XML instance containing said input data.

Claim 2 (Original): The method of claim 1, further comprising:

 defining, in said XML schema, delimiters, TagNames, positional information within said non-XML data stream.

Claim 3 (Original): The method of claim 1, further comprising:

 annotating said XML schema with said nodes in accordance with standard conventions applicable to an XSD schema.

Claim 4 (Original): The method of claim 1, wherein said non-XML data comprises at least one of flat files, EDI files, and COBOL files.

Claim 5 (Currently amended): A computer-readable medium having stored thereon computer executable instructions an editor for defining an XML schema that describes a non-XML data stream, comprising:

maintaining an instance tree view;

maintaining a text view of said XML schema; and

maintaining a properties view[[,]]; .

~~wherein entering~~ properties associated with said non-XML data stream ~~are entered~~ via said properties view to define characteristics of data contained within said non-XML data stream[[,]]; and

~~wherein annotating~~ said properties ~~are annotated~~ within said XML schema with property information pertaining to the schema level of nodes in the XML schema.

Claim 6 (Previously presented): The computer-readable medium of claim 5, wherein said text view further comprises a color-coded view of a portion of said XML-schema associated with a particular node.

Claim 7 (Previously presented): The computer-readable medium of claim 5, wherein said specific properties comprise XSD properties.

Claim 8 (Currently amended): The computer-readable medium of claim 5, having further comprising: computer executable instructions for maintaining an extensibility mechanism wherein said properties for specific nodes associated with differing types of non-XML data are specified.

Claim 9 (Currently amended): The computer-readable medium of claim 8, having further comprising: computer executable instructions for maintaining a custom view for adding properties to each node that appear in said properties view.

Claim 10 (Currently amended): The computer-readable medium of claim 5, having further comprising: computer executable instructions for maintaining a validation mechanism; and an instance generation mechanism.

Claim 11 (Previously presented): The computer-readable medium of claim 10, wherein said schema is validated from a non-XML perspective.

Claim 12 (Previously presented): The computer-readable medium of claim 10, wherein sample instance data is generated from said XML schema containing data from said non-XML data stream.

Claim 13 (Previously presented): A method of providing schema editor extensions to a schema editor, comprising:

providing assemblies containing implementation to extend a functionality of said schema editor;

referencing definitions of interfaces for exposing extended functionalities to said schema editor; and

annotating the extended functionalities with property information pertaining to schema level of nodes in an XML schema.

Claim 14 (Previously presented): The method of claim 13, wherein said extended functionalities include additional properties added to elements and attributes of the XML schema.

Claim 15 (Original): The method of claim 14, further comprising:

providing a property manager that implements an interface to define custom properties for said elements and attributes.

Claim 16 (Original): The method of claim 15, further comprising:

storing said custom properties within said XML schema.

Claim 17 (Original): The method of claim 15, further comprising:

annotating said XML schema to describe non-XML data streams.

Claim 18 (Original): The method of claim 15, further comprising:

providing a validator to validate said custom properties.

Claim 19 (Original): The method of claim 15, further comprising:

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providing an instance generator for generating an instance of said XML schema.

Claim 20 (Original): The method of claim 13, further comprising:

annotating a schema being edited by said schema editor to include information about
said extended functionalities.